

Appln. No. 09/696,114
Amendment dated December 1, 2004
Reply to Office Action of October 5, 2004

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the present application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

The October 5, 2004 Final Office Action and the Examiner's comments have been carefully considered. In response, claims are amended and remarks are set forth below in a sincere effort to place the present application in form for allowance. The amendments are supported by the application as originally filed. Therefore, no new matter is added.

Inasmuch as the present Amendment raises no new issues for consideration, and, in any event, places the present application in condition for allowance or in better condition for consideration on appeal, its entry under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.116 are respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

In the Office Action claims 124, 126-128, 130-137, 139-141, 144 and 149-167 are rejected under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112 as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, the Examiner recites deficiencies in claims 124 and 150. In response, claims 124 and 150 are

Appln. No. 09/696,114
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amended in a sincere effort to overcome the indefiniteness rejection.

In view of the amendment of claims 124 and 150, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under the second paragraph of 35 USC 112 are respectfully requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 USC 103

In the Office Action claims 124, 126-128, 130-137, 139, 140, 142, 144, 145 and 147-167 are rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over USP 4,839,829 (Freedman) in view USP 6,233,684 (Stefik et al.). Claims 141, 162 and 164 are rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Freedman and Stefik et al., and further in view of USP 6,131,162 (Yoshiyura et al.).

On page 2 of the Office Action in the section entitled "Response to Argument/Amendment," the Examiner asserts that Freedman teaches a user providing "via an input section" a print specification to a printer and the printer performing an operation based on the print specification.

In response, claim 124 is amended to recite a print service station connected to the network and having a print section which includes an input section, an image reading section to read an image of a document, and an image forming section and which is installed at a place to where a user carries a document, operates

Appln. No. 09/696,114
Amendment dated December 1, 2004
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the image reading section to read an image of the document and to make a copy of the document and at where the user operates the input section to input a print order of the user to print a copy of an ordered book, the print service station having a print management section to communicate with the data service system so as to obtain image data of the ordered book from the data storage section through the network and the print section to print a copy of the ordered book based on the obtained image data.

In the present claimed invention, a print service station is connected to the network and has a print section which includes an input section, an image reading section to read an image of a document, and an image forming section as shown in Fig. 15. As described on page 154, lines 5-14 and page 94, lines 7-12 of the present application, the print service station (printer client 40) is installed at a convenience store or a library to where a user carries a document and makes a copy of the document. Further, at the place, a user operates the input section to input a print order of the user to print a copy of an ordered book and makes a copy of the ordered book.

An aspect of the present claimed invention is to use a print service station installed at a convenience store or a library additionally as a book publishing station. Therefore, a user can carry a document to the print service station located at the

Appln. No. 09/596,114
Amendment dated December 1, 2004
Reply to Office Action of October 5, 2004

place and make a copy of the document at the place. Further, a user can make a copy of a wanted book at the place without carrying the book to the place.

In Freedman, as illustrated in Fig. 1A, a user facility and a printer facility are connected through a network. That is, in Freedman, a user needs to have a user facility independent from a printer facility. In other words, Freedman does not disclose, teach or suggest the print service station as recited in claim 124.

Stefik et al. (see Fig. 16 thereof) teach the use of a consumer workstation connected with a print store through a publisher and a network.

Accordingly, even if Freedman and Stefik et al. are taken in combination, based upon the combination of teachings from the references, it would not have been obvious for a person of ordinary skill in the art to arrive at the book copying system which includes the print service station of the present claimed invention.

None of the other references of record close the gap between the present claimed invention as defined by claim 124 and Freedman, taken either alone or in combination with Stefik et al.

That is, the present claimed invention as defined by claim 124 is patentable over the cited references because the

Appln. No. 09/696,114
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references do not disclose, teach or suggest a book copying system for copying a book based on electronic image data obtained through a network including, inter alia:

a print service station connected to the network and having a print section which comprises an input section, an image reading section to read an image of a document, and an image forming section and which is installed at a place to where a user carries a document, operates the image reading section to read an image of the document and to make a copy of the document and at where a user operates the input section to input a print order of the user to print a copy of an ordered book, the print service station having a print managing section to communicate with the data service system so as to obtain image data of the ordered book from the data storage section through the network and the print section to print a copy of the ordered book based on the obtained image data (see claim 124, lines 9-22).

Claims 126-128, 130-137, 139-142, 144, 145 and 147-167 are either directly or indirectly dependent on claim 124 and are patentable over the cited references in view of their dependence on claim 124 and because the references do not disclose, teach or suggest each of the limitations set forth in the dependent claims.

None of the other references of record close the gap between the present claimed invention as defined by the claims and Freedman, taken either alone or in combination with Stefik et al.

In view of the foregoing, claims 124, 126-128, 130-137, 139-142, 144, 145 and 147-167 are patentable over the cited references under 35 USC 102 as well as 35 USC 103.

Appln. No. 09/696,114
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Entry of this Amendment under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.116, allowance of the claims and the passing of this application to issue are respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner disagrees with any of the foregoing, the Examiner is respectfully requested to point out where there is support for a contrary view.

If the Examiner has any comments, questions, objections or recommendations, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below for prompt action.

Respectfully submitted,


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